International Application No. PCT/GB2003/005375

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 MAY 2003

Preliminary Amendment

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL: ER 224689611 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Nigel Paul Schofield Attorney Docket No.: M02B161

International Application No. PCT/GB2003/005375 Group Art Unit:

International Application Filing Date: December 9, 2003

National Application Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Title: Vacuum Pumping Arrangement

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows: